



GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Department of Labor and Industries, Room S117
Tuesday, November 18, 2003
9 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Welcome / Introduction of new members

Vicki Rummig

Lori Nesmith - DSHS
Kristin Partain - DOL
Janet Merz – School for the Blind
Darla Bauknecht – Eastern Washington University
Misty Ross - DSHS
Pam Hildebrand – Health Care Authority

Introduction of members

All

All members were asked to introduce themselves and tell about their first car.

Committee Reports

Committee Chairs

Lonnie Petersen – Communications

Since the last meeting, the Communications Committee has been working on the InterAct and working to revamp the ICSEW Web site. The Women Leaders in State Government series has been a great accomplishment. If you haven't done so already, check out the article on Mona Locke. Liz Shay and Sheryl Gaskell have been working on the Web site and should have a "sample" site for everyone to check out today (I haven't heard back from either of them as to if this is going to happen). In the next two months we will be continuing to work on revamping the Web site, which includes providing links to each committee's Web page. And, as always, we will be preparing for the next issue of the InterAct. If you have articles or ideas, contact Lonnie at (360) 236-3547.

Mary Briggs – Membership

Door prize presented to newest state employee present at the meeting – Misty Ross

Debbie Kettlehut– Health & Wellness

Vickie Meyer – Education

Julia Ojard - PCOC

Kim Starkey – Historian

Pat Delaney – Conference

1-888-461-2214 – Quinalt May 17-18

Governor's Update

Diane Prigge

October 1, 2003 – Tom Fitzsimmons, new chief of staff. Governor's Trade Mission 80 individuals traveled to China. Outcomes included contracts being signed, newest Starbucks opened and The Evergreen State College extended outreach. 2004 Legislative Session will be January 12, 2003 - March 11, 2003. Included in the Governor's agenda are the Education trust fund with a goal of seamless learning, changes to WASL, higher education, health care including rural health, health care costs and insurance costs and environment including water concerns and

global warming. Future plans include the DGA, Democratic Governor's Association, meeting in Seattle and possibly 1-2 trade missions. Diane also shared that the Governor completely supports Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day.

Ad Hoc Committee Vote

All

Motion – Mary Briggs moved that we keep the Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day Ad Hoc committee.

Second – Ann McKay

Motion carried

Break

Legislative Presentation

Kyle Thiessen (Statue Law Committee)
Pamela Moore (Department of Corrections)

Who do you go to for help? Your elected official whether that is your school, county city or state. Our state has three branches of government operated on a biennium system which utilizes an operating budget, a capital budget for equipment, buildings etc and a transportation budget. Handouts were provided from the bill room is now known as the Legislative Office. They included:

How a bill becomes a law

Legislative Terms

Copy of bill

History of a bill

Member information

The Code Reviser's office is a group of attorneys who along with 40 other staff who may draft 4000 bills for a session. Proofing of bills is very important due to the meaning of certain words, such as should = have to, may = might, can = able to. The legislature may consider only a portion of the bills. The rest may just die. A bill can be reintroduced year after year as long as a legislator wants to sponsor it. The governor can propose legislation on behalf of his agency(ies). Co-sponsors of bills support the legislation. Co-sponsors can be of a different party or a different house (companion bill). Advocates (lobbyists) can have bills written and then shop them for a sponsor. Impact statements prepared by agencies and municipalities are attached to bills and referred to by members when bills are reviewed. The best time to have the full attention of legislators is prior to a session as their time during session is taken up with committee meetings and hearings. House bill numbers begin with 1000, Senate bill numbers begin with 5000 at the new biennium the numbers start over. Once bills are read and sent to committee, committee chairs choose whether or not to hear bills. All chairs and the committee majorities are from the ranking party. Anyone can come in to a committee hearing and speak for or against bills.

Bills are voted out of committee with a majority vote and then sent to rules committee. The rules committee decide which bills go to 2nd reading. The bill then goes to the opposite house and it goes through the same process, if changes are made in the opposite house the process begins again until agreement is reached or the bill dies. The Governor has 20 days not including Sundays to sign bills.

Tracking bills and Cut off dates are available online through Leglink or Access Washington.

A Special Session has been called for December 5th to address the Presidential Primary issue however special sessions can last 30 days.

Case Study

All

Small groups were formed and a case study conducted to determine the ICSEW opinion on two of the questions posed in HR 2005 preparation.

Can performance based increases be given before step increases are given?

If someone is given a performance based increase and their performance drops off significantly can the increase be taken away?

Joyce Norris will prepare a report to be submitted to the Governor's office and/or DOP as determined by the Executive Committee.

Plus / Delta

All

Plus	Delta
Intro/Ice breaker	ICSEW Stickers on name tags
Info on legislative process	Staying awake
Drum group	Turkey for lunch
Case study	Banner
Stuck to agenda	Timing of van for clothing
Warm welcoming group	Rain
Delegation/secretary involved	Chair
Volunteers	

Committee Breakout Sessions

All